

2300 Lake Elmo Drive Billings, MT 59105 July 17, 2009

NOTICE OF DECISION

for

Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone Fishing Access Site

TO: Maureen Theisen, Montana Environmental Quality Council

Director's Office, Dept. of Environmental Quality

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks*

Director's Office Lands Section

Parks Division Design & Construction

Fisheries Division Legal Unit

Wildlife Division Federal Aid Coordinator

Regional Supervisors

Mike Volesky, Governor's Office *

Sarah Elliott, Press Agent, Governor's Office*

Montana Historical Society, State Preservation Office

Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon Council

Montana Wildlife Federation

Montana State Library*

George Ochenski

Montana Environmental Information Center

Wayne Hirst, Montana State Parks Foundation

Montana Parks Association (land acquisition projects)

Bob Raney

FWP Commissioners

DNRC Area Manager, Southern Land Office

Carbon County Commissioners

Other Local Interested People and Groups

* (Sent electronically)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

FWP issued a Decision Notice on May 1, 2009 for acquisition of the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone (Meinhardt) property on the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River for the purposes of a Fishing Access Site. This Decision Notice recommended to acquire the property known as the Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone River property from the Meinhardt family subject to final approval by the FWP Commission and the Montana Land Board.

Following the FWP Commission decision to proceed with the acquisition, we have decided to

amend the decision notice. If the property is acquired, we will institute a 150-yard firearms (including archery) closure along the northern boundary of the property along Ridgeway Drive. We will also provide signage at any developed parking areas showing locations of neighboring houses and directing any hunters to be aware of the residences while hunting. Lastly, we will locate signage adjacent to the river alerting hunters to be aware of the Heiken property. We believe these actions will more adequately address human and property safety.

This is in addition to our original decision to limit firearms use to shotguns (for waterfowl and upland game bird hunting), while archery hunting would be allowed during established seasons. Target shooting and paint-balling would be prohibited.

If you have questions regarding this decision notice, please address them to either of us at ghammond@mt.gov or dhabermann@mt.gov or by calling 247-2940.

Sincerely,

Gary Hammond

Bary Hound

Regional Fish and Wildlife Supervisor

Doug Habermann

Regional Parks Manager